(e) whether the Government have received any foreign assistance for the development of horticulture;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of horticulture products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) India's share in the world trade of fresh horticultural products during 1994 was 0.81%.

(Source : FAO Year Book, 1994)

(b) The quantity and value of fresh horticultural products exported during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as follows :-

Qty. : In MTS
Value : Rs. in Crores

		Fresh fruits & vegetables	Floriculture & Seeds
1993-94	(Quantity)	475332	NA*
	(Value)	385.43	43.34
1994-95	(Quantity)	554546	NA*
	(Value)	433.27	55.61
1995-96	(Quantity)	544105	NA*
	(Value)	531.16	103.22

(Source DGCI&S, Calcutta)

* Details of quantity are not maintained as flowers are exported by numbers.

(c) and (d). 66 proposals involving foreign direct investment of Rs. 43.85 crores have been approved by the Government during the years 1991 to 1996 (upto 30th September).

(e) and (f). A Project titled "UNDP Project on Floriculture" is being implemented by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) with an assistance of US $ 6 lakhs from UNDP for enhancing the production and productivity of floriculture items.

A pilot Vapour Heat, Treatment plant has been set up in New Delhi with the assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency to develop a processing system enabling export of perishable products to Japan.

(g) Some of the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of horticulture products include :-

(i) Supply of quality planting material and training of farmers under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on integrated development of tropical, temperate and arid zone fruits;

(ii) Provision of soft loans for setting up of grading/processing centres, auction platforms, reipening/curing chambers and quality testing equipment;

(iii) Providing financial assistance to exporters/growers/Cooperative Societies for development of infrastructural facilities such as purchase of specialised transport units, establishment of pre-cooling/cold storage facilities;

(iv) Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging and strengthening of quality control;

(v) Establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for improving the acceptability of the product;

(vi) Implementation of a project titled "UNDP Project on Floriculture for enhancing production and productivity of floriculture products.

(vii) Arranging promotional campaigns, buyer-seller meets and participation in fairs/exhibitions.

(viii) Air freight subsidy for selected floricultural, horticultural and fresh vegetables.

[English]

Decline in Production

4400. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the entry of multinationals have attributed to slow down in industrial production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Export-Import Growth

4401. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import has registered a growth during April-October, 1996 after hovering at lower levels in comparison to the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the export growth has picked up during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor indicating the rate of export growth during 1996-97 in comparison to the last three years; and